

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1 - 17. (canceled)

18. (previously presented) A method of making a fiber laminate, the method comprising the steps of sequentially:

a) forming a nonwoven spunbond filament layer;

b) prebonding the nonwoven spunbond filament layer to a tensile strength of at least 50% of the tensile strength thereof at maximum bonding as defined in DIN 53815 to form a prebonded nonwoven spunbond filament layer;

b') treating the prebonded nonwoven spunbond filament layer with at least one wetting agent;

c) applying at least one layer of hydrophilic fibers onto the prebonded nonwoven spunbond filament layer treated with the wetting agent; and

d) hydrodynamically bonding the layer of hydrophilic fibers to the spunbond filament layer to create a two-layer laminate forming an absorbent cloth.

19. (previously presented) The method defined in claim 18 wherein the nonwoven spunbond filament layer is prebonded in step b) in a calender.

20. (previously presented) The method defined in claim 19 wherein the nonwoven spunbond filament layer is prebonded in

3 step b) in a calender having at least one heated embossing drum
4 cylinder.

1 21. (previously presented) The method defined in claim
2 20 wherein the prebonding is carried out in step b) such that a
3 maximum free filament length between two bonding points of the
4 nonwoven spunbond layer is less than 15 mm.

1 22. (previously presented) The method defined in claim
2 21, further comprising the step of additionally deforming the
3 prebonded nonwoven spunbond filament layer to increase the
4 thickness thereof.

1 23. (previously presented) The method defined in claim
2 22 wherein the hydrophilic fibers are applied by at least one
3 carding machine or at least one air-layering device onto the
4 prebonded nonwoven spunbond filament layer.

1 24. (previously presented) The method defined in claim
2 23, further comprising the step of applying a second spunbond
3 nonwoven material onto the laminate formed by the layers.

1 25. (previously presented) The method defined in claim
2 24 wherein the hydrodynamic bonding of the layers into the laminate
3 is effected by a water-jet treatment thereof.

1 26. (previously presented) The method defined in claim
2 18 wherein the prebonding is carried out in step b) such that a
3 maximum free filament length between two bonding points of the
4 nonwoven spunbond layer is less than 15 mm.

1 27. (previously presented) The method defined in claim
2 18, further comprising the step of additionally deforming the
3 prebonded nonwoven spunbond filament layer to increase the
4 thickness thereof.

1 28. (previously presented) The method defined in claim
2 18 wherein the wetting agent is at least one tenside or surface
3 active agent.

1 29. (previously presented) The method defined in claim
2 18 wherein the hydrophilic fibers are applied by at least one
3 carding machine or at least one air-layering device onto the
4 prebonded nonwoven spunbond filament layer.

1 30. (previously presented) The method defined in claim
2 18, further comprising the step of applying a second spunbond
3 nonwoven material onto the laminate formed by the layers.

1 31. (previously presented) The method defined in claim
2 18 wherein the hydrodynamic bonding of the layers into the laminate
3 is effected by a water-jet treatment thereof.

1 32. (new) A method of making a fiber laminate, the
2 method comprising the steps of sequentially:

3 a) forming a nonwoven spunbond filament layer;

4 b) prebonding the nonwoven spunbond filament layer to a
5 tensile strength of at least 50% of the tensile strength thereof at
6 maximum bonding as defined in DIN 53815 to form a prebonded
7 nonwoven spunbond filament layer such that a maximum free path
8 length between two bonding points of the spunbond filaments is less
9 than 15 mm;

10 c) treating the prebonded nonwoven spunbond filament
11 layer with at least one wetting agent;

12 d) applying at least one layer of hydrophilic fibers onto
13 the prebonded nonwoven spunbond filament layer treated with the
14 wetting agent; and

15 e) hydrodynamically bonding the layer of hydrophilic
16 fibers to the spunbond filament layer to create a two-layer
17 laminate forming an absorbent cloth.

1 33. (new) A method of making a fiber laminate, the
2 method comprising the steps of sequentially:

3 a) forming a nonwoven spunbond filament layer;

4 b) prebonding the nonwoven spunbond filament layer to a
5 tensile strength of at least 50% of the tensile strength thereof at
6 maximum bonding as defined in DIN 53815 to form a prebonded
7 nonwoven spunbond filament layer;

8 c) deforming the prebonded spunbond filament layer so as
9 to increase its thickness;

10 d) treating the prebonded nonwoven spunbond filament
11 layer with at least one wetting agent;

12 e) applying at least one layer of hydrophilic fibers onto
13 the prebonded nonwoven spunbond filament layer treated with the
14 wetting agent; and

15 f) hydrodynamically bonding the layer of hydrophilic
16 fibers to the spunbond filament layer to create a two-layer
17 laminate forming an absorbent cloth.

1 34. (new) A method of making a fiber laminate, the
2 method comprising the steps of sequentially:

3 a) forming a nonwoven spunbond filament layer;

4 b) prebonding the nonwoven spunbond filament layer to a
5 tensile strength of at least 50% of the tensile strength thereof at
6 maximum bonding as defined in DIN 53815 to form a prebonded
7 nonwoven spunbond filament layer such that a maximum free path
8 length between two bonding points of the spunbond filaments is less
9 than 15 mm;

10 c) deforming the prebonded spunbond filament layer so as
11 to increase its thickness;

12 d) treating the thickness-increased prebonded nonwoven
13 spunbond filament layer with at least one wetting agent;

14 e) applying at least one layer of hydrophilic fibers onto
15 the prebonded nonwoven spunbond filament layer treated with the
16 wetting agent; and

17 f) hydrodynamically bonding the layer of hydrophilic
18 fibers to the spunbond filament layer to create a two-layer
19 laminate forming an absorbent cloth.